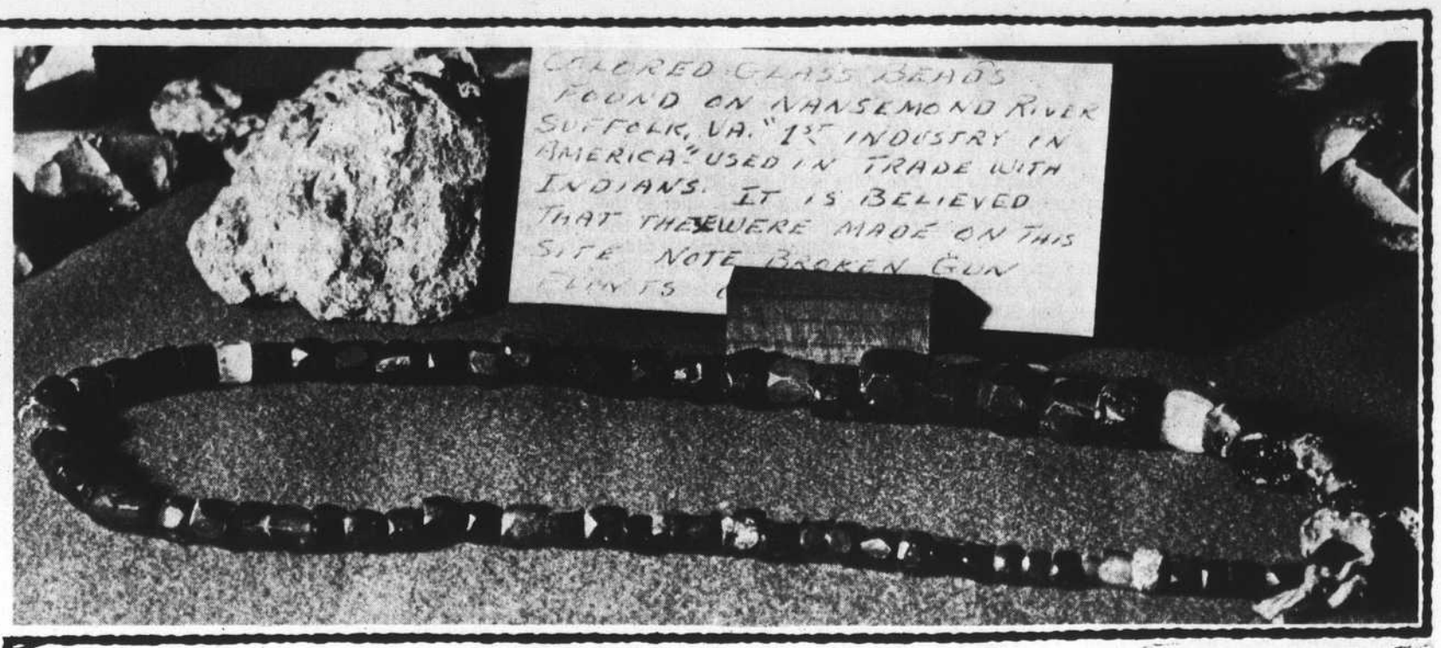
Traces Of Early Commerce

The scene in the drawing to the right may have been common in colonial Virginia as one of the earliest industries, glass making, provided colorful beads to be used as barter with the Indians. One of a very few of those bead "factories" was on the Nansemond River. Many, many beads, probably the imperfect ones that were discarded, have been discovered in the area. The sample of the findings shown at the far right is in the Morgan Memorial Library.



Leaves Of History

1732. The salary of inspectors at Constance's, Lawrence's and Sleepy Hole warehouses was 40 pounds, about $200.

March 25, 1870 - Bradstreet mercantile agency established a branch office in Norfolk, Suffolk and Nansemond County were in the district.

Tradition Gives Origin Of Mills Riddick Name

Nov. 19, 1753 - Mills Riddick was sheriff of the county. He was one of the many Mills Riddicks of the county. Tradition says that a man named Mills emigrated to Virginia and took up a large grant of land southeast of Suffolk on what is now the White Marsh road, and that his only daughter married a man named Riddick, and from that time there has been a Mills Riddick in the family. There was one by that name on the Vestry of Upper Parish in colonial days, and perhaps there were two. And just before the Revolutionary war a parcel of land was bought by the Vestry for a glebe from a man by that name. This land is said to have been where the Four County Fair grounds are now.

Va. Gazette Published

1736. – Metallic money having become more plentiful, in the colony the Burgesses salary was allowed to be paid in it instead of tobacco as formerly. This year The Virginia Gazette, the first newspaper in the colony was published at Williamsburg. By William Parks. A paper by this name was run for a long time, and recently the college of William & Mary revived this ancient publication in connection with its school of Journalism.

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But the Bicentennial is a time to look ahead, too. If our second century is ending, our third century has just begun. And the challenges and opportunities that will lie ahead will continue to test America's greatness.

Virginia National Bank joins the people of Suffolk in wishing us all a happy Bicentennial birthday. Like you, we face the past with pride — and the future with confidence.

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